than the prevailing market price on which NCCF would have had to dispose of the same in the local market. The balance quantity of rain affected stocks was in fact sold locally@ Rs. around 2200/-PMT.

(c) This is being ascertained.

(d) The NCCF have filed a case in the High Court of Delhi against the Insurance Co. and the matter is *sub-judice*. Therefore no enquiry or investigation is possible at present.

Blind persons in the country

3179. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of blind persons in the country as at present;

(b) whether Government propose to secure jobs in the Government services as well as Central and State public undertakings and the private sectors; and

(c) what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI): (a) During 1981 National Sample Survey Organisation conducted a country-wide sample survey on disabled persons to arrive at reasonably accurate estimates of incidence and prevalence of disability in the country. According to this report it is estimated that 3.47 million persons were suffering from visual disabilities in the country.

(b) and (c) 1% Vacancies in Group 'C' and 'D' have been reserved in the Central Government Services and comparable posts in Central public Undertakings for the Visually Handicapped. Majority of State Governments/Union Territories have also extended similar reservations in States Services. In addition special employment exchanges, special Cells in normal Employment Exchanges, Vocational Rehabilitation Centres for physically handicapped have been set up through out the country for rehabilitation of handicapped including the blind. Through other various schemes/programmes handicapped including blind are benefited in self-employment ventures such as allotment of shops, kiosks by States/ Union Territories and loans given by the banks.

Reservation of jobs in educational institutions for disabled persons

3180. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Federation of blinds has demanded a National law on reservation of jobs and seats in the Educational institutions for the blinds and disabled;

(b) what action Government have taken on their demands;

(c) whether the Federation has made other demands; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI): (a) to (d) During 1987 Ministry of Welfare set up a Committee Under the Chairmanship of Shri Baharul Islam to suggest legislation for the welfare of handicapped. The Committee had suggested certain constitutional amendments, reservation in employment both in public and private sector, vocational training institutions, certain miscellaneous provision inludings fiscal concessions and special pay to the teachers etc. National Federation of the Blind, a Voluntary organisation is demanding legislation in the areas suggested by the Baharul Islam Committee.

In addition the Federation demands inclusion of reservation for disabled in Jawahar Rozgar Yojna and filling up of the backlog of reserved vacancies for the physically handicapped in all Central Government offices and public Sector undertakings etc. Recommendations of the Baharul Islam Committee on Legislation is presently under consideration of the Government. As regards inclusion reservation of disabled in Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, the matter is presently being pursued with the concerned Department. For filling up of the backlog of vacancies for physically handicapped persons in Central Government offices and Public Sector undertakings, a special recruitment drive is under-way foi the blind and for the deaf.

गौतम पुरी में सफाई कर्मचारियों द्वारा अपना कार्य न किए जाने के कारण होने वाली असुविधा

3181. **श्री सुनील कुमार पट्टनायक :** क्या शहरी विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि यमुनापार कालोनी गौतमपुरी में सफाई कर्मचारियों द्वारा समय पर सफाई न किये जाने के कारण कालोनी के निवासियों को भारी असुविधा का सामना करना पड़ रहा है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं और इस कालोनी के निवासियों को यह सुविधा उपलब्ध कराने के लिए सरकार क्या कदम उठाने का विचार रखती है ?

शहरी विकास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री दलबीर सिंह) : (क) तथा (ख) दिल्ली नगर निगम ने सूचित किया है कि गौतमपुरी में सफाई कार्यों के लिए पर्याप्त संख्या में सफाई कर्मचारी तैनात किए गए हैं। तथापि, चूंकि कालोनी में कोई कूड़ादान नहीं है इसलिए, कूड़ा-कचरा खुले में इक्ट्ठा किया जा रहा है जिससे कालोनी के निवासियों को असुविधा का सामना करना पड़ रहा होगा। कूड़ेदान के निर्माणार्थ उपर्युक्त स्थल अभी तक उपलब्ध नहीं हुआ है।

SC/ST Nurse trainees in Bokaro General Hospital of Bokaro Steel Plant.

3182. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe nurse trainees in Bokaro General Hospital of Bokaro Steel Plant; and

(b) if so, the percentage of such trainees of the total number of nurse trainees in the said hospital?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number and percentage of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribe (SC/ST) Nurse Trainees in the Bokaro General Hospital is given below:—

Year	Total Nurse Trainees	SC/ST Nurse Trainees	Percentage of SC/ST Nurse Trainees to total Nurse Trainees
1989	26	9	34.62%